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**From:** Altieri, Sonia [Altieri.Sonia@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 1/22/2021 2:05:35 AM  
**To:** Keigwin, Richard [Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov]; Tyler, Tom [Tyler.Tom@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: Message from the Chief of Staff

I haven't seen an announcement yet. \*\*OCSP: Michal Freedhoff (as of 1/25)

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**From:** MassMailer <massmailer@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 7:15 PM  
**To:** MassMailer <massmailer@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Message from the Chief of Staff



Dear Colleagues,

First, allow me to introduce myself. I'm Dan Utech, and it is my privilege to join the EPA team as the incoming Chief of Staff.

As you know, President Biden has nominated Michael Regan, Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, as the next Administrator of the EPA. While we await Secretary Regan's confirmation, I am grateful that Jane Nishida will be serving as Acting Administrator, providing us with steady leadership.

Yesterday, President Biden signed [an Executive Order on Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Resilient Communities to the Impacts of Climate Change](#), which states that: "it is the policy of my Administration to listen to the science; to improve public health and the environment; to ensure access to clean air and water; to limit exposure to dangerous chemicals and pesticides; to hold polluters accountable, including those who disproportionately harm communities of color and low-income communities; to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; to build resilience to the impacts of climate change; to restore and expand our national treasures and monuments; and to promote economic justice and the creation of the well-paying union jobs necessary to deliver on these goals." EPA will be at the heart of this effort, guided by science as we move to achieve these goals and address other threats to public health and the environment.

President Biden also signed [an Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Within the Federal Government](#). In addition to providing a framework for advancing equity, it revokes the EO 13950-Combating Race and Ethnicity Bias.

In the coming days and weeks, we will be building out our leadership team. At the end of this email, please find an update on our acting leaders as well as a list of the incoming appointees who onboarded this week. As we and other members of the team get up and running, we look forward to learning from you and beginning to work together.

I know that the work of EPA relies on the dedicated professionals who carry the agency's mission forward from one Administration to the next. Thank you for your ongoing service to EPA and our country, and for your efforts to protect Americans' health and our environment.

Finally, I want to acknowledge that we begin this transition during the COVID-19 pandemic. I want to assure you that this is our top priority. As a first step in that regard, yesterday President Biden signed an Executive Order requiring masks and social distancing in federal buildings. This is not a change in telework status but rather a measure to further protect those whose work requires in-person contact.

Thank you in advance for bearing with us as we onboard amidst these unprecedented circumstances. I am honored to be part of this transition.

As we look to our shared work ahead, please take a few minutes to view this brief video message from President Biden on his commitment in his own words.

Sincerely,

Dan Utech  
Chief of Staff

**Current and acting leadership:**

Acting Administrator: Jane Nishida  
OCFO: David Bloom  
OAR: Joseph Goffman  
OW: Radhika Fox  
OLEM: Barry Breen  
OCSP: Michal Freedhoff (as of 1/25)  
ORD: Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta  
OGC: Melissa Hoffer  
OECA: Larry Starfield  
OITA: Mark Kasman  
OMS: Donna Vizian  
OP: Victoria Arroyo  
OCIR: Robin Richardson  
OPEEE: Rosemary Enobakhare  
OPA: Lindsay Hamilton  
R1: Deb Szaro  
R2: Walter Mugdan  
R3: Diana Esher  
R4: John Blevins  
R5: Cheryl Newton  
R6: David Gray  
R7: Ed Chu  
R8: Deb Thomas  
R9: Deb Jordan  
R10: Michelle Pirzadeh

**Members of the incoming EPA leadership team who onboarded this week:**

**Radha Adhar, Deputy Associate Administrator for Congressional Affairs**

Radha Adhar joins EPA from the Office of Senator Tammy Duckworth where she served as Senior Policy Advisor for Science. In 2016 and 2017, Radha was an Advisor to the Jobs Strategy Council in the Office of the Secretary at the Department of Energy. She has also worked at the Sierra Club and the Natural Resources Defense Council, focusing on the Beyon 2012 Earth Summit. Radha holds a M.S.in Energy Policy and Climate Change Science from Johns Hopkins University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

### **Victoria Arroyo, Associate Administrator for Policy**

Vicki Arroyo returns to EPA after having served as Executive Director of the Georgetown Climate Center for 12 years and policy and supporting leading states and cities in their efforts to address and prepare for climate change. Previously, she served as Vice President for Policy Analysis and General Counsel where she directed Policy Analysis, adaptation, economics, and U.S. policy programs for a decade and was Managing Editor of the Center's book, *Climate Change: Strategies and Solutions*. She was recently Chair of the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and has served on numerous other boards and committees advising the National Center for Atmospheric Research, the U.S. Energy Information Administration, and the California Air Resources Board. She previously served in two offices at EPA, the Office of Air and Radiation and the Office of Research and Development, where she led the development of standards under the Clean Air Act. Vicki also served as Policy Director for the Louisiana Department of Environmental Protection, drafting legislation that reduced toxic air pollution by 50% and linking tax breaks to firms' environmental records. She is a member of the College of Environmental Lawyers in 2018 and holds a B.S. in biology from Emory and a M.P.A. from Harvard and a J.D. from Georgetown University.

### **Tomás Elias Carbonell, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Stationary Sources, Office of Air and Radiation**

Since 2012, Tomás Carbonell has held a number of positions at the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), most recently as Director of Regulatory Policy for EDF's U.S. Clean Air program. His work included leading EDF's litigation and regulatory analysis of the Clean Power Plan and carbon pollution standards for new, modified and reconstructed power plants; defending against claims of hazardous air pollution from power plants and industrial sources; and advocacy in defense of EPA's use of rigorous health and economic analysis. From 2008 until 2012, Tomás was an Associate at Van Ness Feldman, LLP, where he counseled diverse clients on regulatory matters related to climate change, clean energy, and environmental and electricity regulation. He has a J.D. and a M.A. in Environmental Change and Management and Development Economics from the University of Oxford, and a B.S. in Chemical Engineering, Economics, and Multidisciplinary Studies from North Carolina State University.

### **Alison Cassady, Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy**

Alison Cassady most recently served as the Deputy Staff Director for the U.S. House of Representatives, Select Committee on Energy and Commerce, where she managed a team of lawyers and scientists to conceptualize, draft and deliver a congressional policy roadmap for reducing emissions by 2050 and building a clean energy economy that values workers and advances environmental justice. Prior to this, she was the Managing Director of the Energy and Environment Team at the Center for American Progress, providing strategic and policy support to a team working on climate change policy, public lands conservation, and ocean protection. Alison also served on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. She holds a Master of Public Administration from the University School of Public and Environmental Affairs and a B.S. in Foreign Service from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service.

### **Dimple Chaudhary, Deputy General Counsel for Nationwide Resource Protection Programs**

Dimple Chaudhary joins EPA after serving as Deputy Litigation Director at the Natural Resources Defense Council. Her work focused on litigation and advocacy to protect communities from drinking water contamination and exposure to toxics. Dimple was lead counsel in Flint, Michigan, in a case brought to address lead contamination in the city's drinking water, which led to a settlement requiring the replacement of all Flint's lead service lines within three years. Prior to joining NRDC, she was an associate at WilmerHale and a law clerk to Judge Carol Bagley Amon of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. She holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from the University of California, a master's degree in urban planning from the London School of Economics, and a J.D. from Columbia Law School.

### **Rosemary Enobakhare, Associate Administrator for Public Engagement and Environmental Education**

Rosemary Enobakhare returns to EPA where she served as the Deputy Associate Administrator for Public Engagement and Environmental Education, leading the agency's community outreach and strategic engagement plans. Since then, she has been the Deputy Director of The Hub Project, developing and managing large-scale advocacy campaigns that shift the conversation around top priorities. She also worked for two years as the Campaign Director at the Clean Water for All Campaign, serving as the principal point of contact for the campaign.

stakeholders and overseeing all aspects of the campaign's daily operations. Rosemary is a graduate of Spelman College and a major in Economics.

### **Philip Fine, Principal Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy**

Dr. Fine joins EPA after a 15-year career at the South Coast Air Quality Management District in Southern California. He served as the Deputy Executive Officer for the Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources Division, where he oversaw all activities including development of State Implementation Plans and Air Quality Management Plans, strategies and regulations, meteorology and forecasting, air quality evaluation, air toxics risk assessment, emissions inventories, socioeconomic programs, and enforcement for area sources. Prior to this role, Dr. Fine's previous responsibilities at South Coast AQMD included ambient air monitoring, laboratory services, quality assurance, and source testing. Dr. Fine served on the California Air Resources Board's legislatively mandated Research Screening Committee, and has also served on several EPA Clean Air Scientific Advisory panels. Before joining the South Coast AQMD, Dr. Fine was a Research Assistant Professor at the University of Southern California where he taught courses and conducted extensive research on particulate pollution, air monitoring technologies, and has over 50 peer-reviewed scientific publications to date. He received his Ph.D. from the California Institute of Technology in Science & Engineering, and his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science & Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley.

### **Radhika Fox, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Water**

Prior to her appointment at EPA, Radhika Fox was the Chief Executive Officer of the US Water Alliance, a national nonprofit advancing policies and programs that build a sustainable water future for all. She has more than 20 years of experience leading programs and issue-based advocacy campaigns on the most salient water issues facing the nation including climate change, innovative finance, water infrastructure investment, equity, and the evolution of the One Water movement. Previously, she worked in public and government affairs for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, which is responsible for providing 24/7 water and municipal power services to millions of Bay Area residents. She also served as the Federal Policy Director at PolicyLink, where she led the organization's policy agenda on a wide range of issues, including infrastructure investment, transportation, sustainable communities, economic inclusion, and workforce development. Radhika has a M.A. in City and Regional Planning from the University of California, Berkeley, and a B.A. in Religion and Philosophy from Columbia University.

### **Michal Ilana Freedhoff, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention**

Michal Ilana Freedhoff joined the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee as its Minority Director of Oversight and Policy. She has more than twenty years of government experience, beginning in 1996 in then-Congressman Ed Markey's office as a Policy and Engineering fellow after receiving a Ph.D. in physical chemistry at the University of Rochester. She has also served on the House Science Committee, the House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, the House Committee on Environment and Public Works, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, the House Committee and the House Natural Resources Committee. Her legislative work includes the fuel economy provisions of the Energy Independence and Security Act, a law requiring the creation of an online database of dangerous consumer products, the authorization of the Toxic Substances Control Act, and 2019 legislation to address PFAS contamination. She lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband and four children.

### **Joseph Goffman, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation**

Joe Goffman returns to EPA after serving from 2009 – 2017 as the Associate Assistant Administrator for Climate and Environmental Policy of Air and Radiation, where he provided policy and legal counsel on a wide range of climate policy and Clean Air Act implementation issues and rulemakings. Since 2017 he has served as the Executive Director of the Environmental and Energy Policy Center at Harvard Law School where he led a team of attorneys and communications specialists providing information and analysis to government decision makers and the media, and offering innovative responses on emerging issues in the areas of federal energy and electricity law and environmental and administrative law as well as in selected areas of corporate law. Joe also served the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works as the Democratic Chief Counsel and Majority Senior Counsel. He holds law degrees from Yale University.

### **Lindsay Hamilton, Associate Administrator for Public Affairs**

Lindsay Hamilton comes to EPA from Climate Nexus, a communications non-profit, where she was senior director of strategy. She also spent time as the chief spokesperson for The George Washington University, the chief of staff and Center for American Progress, and she served in roles in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the and the U.S. Senate. In her career, she worked for ABC News. Lindsay earned a B.A. in international affairs and political science from The George Washington University. She earned her master's degree from the Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs. She is currently residing in Omaha, Nebraska.

### **Sinceré Harris, White House Liaison**

Sinceré Harris joins EPA with years of senior-level experience in developing strategies to define, communicate and advance the agency's mission. In 2015 she has served as the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Democratic Party, where she was at the forefront of coordinated campaigns, approving and managing multi-million dollar coordinated budgets, and led the formation of the party's 2020 strategy. In 2020, Sinceré was named the Pennsylvania Senior Advisor for Joe Biden for President, including advising a team of staff on organizing, voter protection, political and coalition building, and communications. She previously worked as the Assistant Secretary of Public Affairs for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Sinceré has a degree in Psychology from Temple University.

### **Melissa Hoffer, Principal Deputy General Counsel**

Prior to joining EPA, Melissa Hoffer was with the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office where she served as the Chief Counsel for the Environment Bureau and oversaw the work of the Bureau's attorneys on matters including prosecuting civil and criminal cases, enforcing environmental laws, energy policy, ratepayer advocacy, defensive cases, and affirmative advocacy, including litigation related to Mercury and Air Toxics Standards. In 2020, Melissa was inducted as a Fellow into the American College of Environmental Lawyers. She received a 2020 Meritorious Service Award from the National Association of Attorneys General, a Massachusetts Law Award in 2013, and a Boston Bar Association President's award in 2007. Melissa served for over five years as a Senior Counsel for the Conservation Law Foundation and director of its Healthy Communities and Environmental Justice Program, and director of the Advocacy Center. Melissa practiced at WilmerHale for many years where her focus was environmental law and litigation. She holds a J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law, an M.Ed. from the University of Massachusetts, and a B.A. from Hampshire College.

### **Casey Katims, Deputy Associate Administrator for Intergovernmental Affairs**

Casey Katims most recently served as Director of Federal and Inter-State Affairs for Washington Governor Jay Inslee. He was a policy advisor on federal policy issues and directing the state of Washington's engagement with Congress, the White House, and other federal government offices and various other stakeholders in D.C. Prior to this role, he spent five years as a policy advisor in the U.S. House of Representatives for Rep. Suzan DelBene, developing bills and amendments on a range of issues and helping manage the House Ways and Means Committee. Casey has a degree in Political Science from Vassar College and grew up in Everett, Washington.

### **John Lucey, Special Assistant to the Administrator**

John Lucey joins EPA from the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), starting as a Legislative Counsel. He has served since 2019 as the Chief Strategy Officer, helping create and manage the strategic implementation of both North Carolina's Climate Plan and Risk and Resiliency Plan. He also provided guidance to the Department on significant State initiatives including the Tar Sands Ash Settlement, the North Carolina Environmental Justice and Equity Board and the Chemours Consent Order. John holds a B.S. in Science from North Carolina State University and an Associate of Arts degree from Central Piedmont Community College.

### **Dan Utech, Chief of Staff**

Dan Utech has over 20 years of experience in the federal environmental and energy sectors., including as a President 1997/1998 with assignments at EPA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Forest Service served at the White House Domestic Policy Council, including as Deputy Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change. He led the White House and cross-governmental teams to implement and coordinate communications for President Obama's energy and climate change strategy, and promoted the President's agenda in Congress. He was Senior Advisor to the Secretary at the U.S. Department of Energy, where his responsibilities included budget development and oversight of initiatives such as nuclear waste. Prior to his federal agency experience, Dan was Senior Advisor to Senator Hillary Clinton on all energy and environmental issues, including climate change, clean diesel, and energy efficiency, as well as toxic substances and endangered species. He has been a lecturer at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and received an M.E.S. degree. He also holds degrees from the Yale School of Management and Amherst College.